

Libya, Moscow to sign treaty

MOSCOW (R) — Libya and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to sign a friendship treaty. Soviet Television reported Saturday. A joint communiqué issued after a visit to Moscow by Col. Muammar Qadhafi's second-in-command Abdul Salam Jalloud said the Soviet Union and Libya had "agreed in principle on the signing of a treaty of friendship and cooperation." Maj. Jalloud, who left for home Friday, held talks with Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov. The Soviet Union already has friendship treaties with three Arab countries—Iraq, Syria and South Yemen.

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جريدة الأردن للصحافة العربية "الرأي"

PLO to intensify armed struggle

TUNIS (R) — The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) met here Saturday for the second day running and said the armed struggle would be intensified inside the Israeli-occupied Arab territories. The committee, in charge of the day-to-day running of the PLO, is meeting for the first time since the last meeting of the Palestine National Council, the organisation's policy-making parliament-in-exile, in Algiers last month. An official PLO statement said the committee also decided to submit a memorandum to the United Nations Security Council on Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. It will later discuss the PLO's relations with Arab states and how to distribute tasks among its members. All but one of the members were selected at the Algiers meeting of the national council.

Explosives cache found at Beirut Libyan embassy

BEIRUT (R) — Two suitcases full of explosives were found at the Libyan embassy in Beirut Saturday and defused by army experts, security sources said. The Libyan embassy, in a coastal suburb of the city, has been deserted since it was damaged by Israeli shelling during last summer's siege of Beirut. Libyan sources said the embassy was under repair and about to be reoccupied. Libyan diplomats had used the offices of the Libyan news agency JANA but that too was damaged in a massive car bomb blast on Feb. 5. The right-wing Voice of Lebanon radio estimated that 30 kilograms of explosive was planted on the ground floor of the embassy.

Carter arrives in Morocco

RABAT (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter arrived in the south Moroccan city of Marrakesh Saturday for a two-day private visit on his way home from a Middle East tour. He is due to meet King Hassan in the city of Fez Sunday before returning to the U.S. He has already visited Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

Eanes in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes arrived Saturday for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on bilateral relations and other world issues. A 30-strong official delegation, including the ministers of foreign affairs and industry, came with the Portuguese president to hold talks with their Egyptian counterparts.

Dhaka frees 200 detainees

DHAKA (R) — About 200 politicians and students detained after last month's violence in Bangladesh were freed Saturday, an official announcement said. It said military ruler Lt.-Gen. Hossain Mohammad Ershad ordered their release as a gesture of goodwill on the eve of a celebration marking the twelfth anniversary of the country's independence on March 26. Five people were killed and more than 100 injured during student clashes with police in demonstrations against controversial education policies of the Bangladesh's military government. Gen. Ershad hoped that his gesture would help create congenial atmosphere for reopening the universities, the announcement added.

Study details causes of strain in U.S. ties with China

WASHINGTON (R) — China's lack of foreign currency and the United States decision to continue selling arms to Taiwan are the major stumbling blocks to closer ties between the two countries, a congressional study said Saturday. The joint economic committee of Congress said the West must be willing to buy more Chinese goods if it expected China to earn enough foreign exchange to buy Western products. The report said Peking would need more favorable financing terms for imports, including U.S. government-subsidized loans.

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Hussein stresses time is running out for peace

U.S. credibility faces difficult test, King says

LONDON (Agencies) — King Hussein said Saturday that U.S. credibility faced a difficult test and that time was running out for progress towards peace in the Middle East.

The King, who came to Britain at the head of an Arab League mission, was speaking before a meeting with U.S. special Middle East envoy Philip Habib in London later Saturday.

"I believe for many reasons that we do not have much time before formidable obstacles appear in the path of any possible progress towards peace," he told a news conference.

"I certainly believe American credibility is passing through a difficult test. We are way behind schedule on the American side in terms of the goal that was set for the beginning of this year, in terms of Lebanon at least."

The King, who is due to meet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat within the next few days, said he hoped Washington would enhance its credibility by "playing the major role only the United States can play towards securing a just and lasting peace in the area."

The King said his meeting with Mr. Arafat would be crucial.

The Reagan plan envisages Palestinian self-rule on the Israeli-occupied West Bank in association with Jordan.

The King said he hoped his meeting with Mr. Arafat would "enhance our joint ability with the support of our Arab brethren to contribute to setting our course" towards a settlement.

The King and his mission came to Britain to explain an Arab League peace plan adopted at a summit in Fez last September. The plan calls for an independent Palestinian state under the PLO but is seen as implicitly recognising Israel's right to exist.

The King, who noted that no

progress was possible without Israeli involvement, said there was common ground between the Reagan and the Arab plan. Of the U.S. plan, he said: "There were positive areas, there were vague areas."

But he said Israel's continued occupation of Lebanon and its increased settlement in the occupied territories made the situation extremely dangerous.

The United States had a role to play in helping to find a solution to these problems, he said.

The King also said he would welcome any pressure that Britain or the European Economic Community might be able to put on Israel. He described their attitude so far as constructive.

Mrs. Thatcher, whose opposition to a PLO representative led to postponement of the Arab visit last November, laid on a lavish welcome Saturday of the sort more commonly associated with state occasions.

She shook hands with Walid Al Khalidi, an academic eventually chosen to represent the Palestinians. Dr. Khalidi is a member of the Palestine National Council, or parliament-in-exile, but is not a PLO office holder.

The postponement of the visit led to a rift between Britain and Arab states, notably Saudi Arabia, but King Hussein said Saturday that the visit had restored traditional Anglo-Arab relations based on close understanding.

The King told Mrs. Thatcher Friday there could be no peace until Israel withdrew from Arab territories occupied in 1967, in particular Arab Jerusalem, and a Palestinian state was created under the PLO.

King Hussein added: "I visited Egypt twice when we did not have diplomatic relations."

The King's press secretary, Fouad Ajoub, later told Reuters the King was referring to visits before the 1967 war, in a period when the two countries did not have diplomatic relations.

"He was not talking about visits in the present situation," Mr. Ajoub said.

King Hussein also said that Jordan continued to have contacts with Egypt despite the fact that diplomatic relations were broken off in 1979 over Cairo's treaty with Israel.

"Notwithstanding the fact that we do not have diplomatic relations... relations are extremely close, contacts are continuing," he told the news conference.

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"He was not talking about visits in the present situation," Mr. Ajoub said.

Queen hosts luncheon

Queen Elizabeth gave a luncheon banquet at Windsor Palace in honour of King Hussein and the Arab delegation.

Later Saturday, the King met with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam who is member of the Arab League seven-member delegation.



His Majesty King Hussein answers reporters questions at a press conference held in London Saturday (A.P. wirephoto)

Tunisia, Algeria to normalise ties

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia and Algeria Saturday signed a treaty of friendship and concord to signal the normalisation of relations after years of mutual distrust.

The new treaty is designed to avoid repetitions of incidents like the attack on the Tunisian mining town of Gafsa three years ago by Tunisian opponents who came from Libya via Algeria and a similar attempt at infiltration last year in the Kasserine area, well-informed sources said.

The two parts also signed an accord delimiting their common frontier which had been in dispute at five points.

After a ceremony in the presidential palace of Carthage, Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim said signing the

Bombs rock Assam

NEW DELHI (R) — Ten bombs have exploded in India's troubled northeast state of Assam over the past 24 hours in the latest unrest following last month's anti-immigrant violence in which about 3,000 people were killed.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said five bombs went off in the Assam capital of Gauhati Friday night. Five others hit several parts of the Brahmaputra Valley state, but there were no reports of injury and damage was slight.

PTI said that in separate incidents four people had been killed in the past 36 hours and about 30 houses set ablaze in the state's central Darrang district Friday by an armed gang.

The government of President Hissene Habre had accused Libya of repeated acts of aggression and of occupying the uranium-rich Aouzou strip of Chad for the last 10 years.

Mr. Treki said his country had no ambitions on the territory of other countries but would not relinquish an inch of its own.

"The Tel Aviv communiqué said: 'The Tel Aviv liaison arrangements are insufficient and involved danger for the personnel of the Marines corps and Israeli soldiers deployed in the area."

It added that an agreement was "urgent and important, and should be reached as soon as possible, so as to secure quick and reliable liaison between the two forces."

He suggested in an official Defense Ministry communiqué that an Israeli officer should be stationed at Marine headquarters in Beirut and a Marine officer with the Israeli forces.

Mr. Arens also proposed "an agreement in writing on the demarcation lines between the two forces, as well as on the procedure for crossing these lines."

The Tel Aviv communiqué said: "The Tel Aviv liaison arrangements are insufficient and involved danger for the personnel of the Marines corps and Israeli soldiers deployed in the area."

It added that an agreement was "urgent and important, and should be reached as soon as possible, so as to secure quick and reliable liaison between the two forces."

Mr. Treki said his country had no ambitions on the territory of other countries but would not relinquish an inch of its own.

"The Aouzou sector is an integral part of Libyan territory, its inhabitants Libyan and they have held Libyan identity cards since independence," he added.

Mr. Treki said Chad's request for a council meeting was an interference in Libya's internal affairs and an unfriendly act.

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Mr. Treki said his country

FEATURES

L British wine sales in France could be a reality

By Philip Stephens

Reuter

PARIS — The British say they have sold pasta to the Italians,送到 the Middle East and cowboy outifts to Texas — but British winegrower David Carr Taylor is attempting something even more outlandish.

He wants to sell British wine to the world's greatest wine lovers and connoisseurs, the French.

His self-confessed audacity brought gasps of amazement at France's biggest agricultural show in Paris this week.

"Incredible," said an aide to French Farm Minister Edith Cresson as bystanders gaped at the tiny British stand, tucked away in a corner of a huge hall offering hundreds of the finest French wines.

"You (the British) should stick to roast beef," said a slightly more blunt winegrower from Burgundy, insisting that Britain could never

satisfy sophisticated French taste buds.

But, though admittedly nervous, Mr. Carr Taylor was unabashed.

"We are going to take a lot of flack (criticism) from the French... But I love the challenge," he said.

Once the week-long fair ends, he hopes to appoint an agent to get his three different white wines into French shops.

The wine is produced from vines cloned from vineyards in West Germany. It has a fruity flavor and a bouquet similar to the popular wines of the Moselle.

Seven years after starting commercial operations, the family business will produce around 100,000 bottles in 1983 from a vineyard on Britain's south coast.

Ironically, Mr. Carr Taylor says, his land is near the town of Hastings, where France's William the Conqueror inflicted his famous defeat on King Harold of England

fear in the way of competition for their classic wines from Bordeaux and Burgundy.

The sun does not shine long or hot enough in southern England to allow production of red wine, nor are the conditions suitable for the fine dry white wines of Burgundy.

What Mr. Carr Taylor hopes to cash in on is the huge market for Riesling-type wines built up by West Germany.

And after the visitors at the fair had stopped gaping and started tasting he had some cause for encouragement.

"We were very surprised. It's good," said businessman Jean Tricque who left the stand with three bottles of the 35-franc (\$5) a bottle wine.

"It's got a good bouquet," said Antoine Verdale, president of the Association of Langue doc-Roussillon Wine Co-Operatives, though he added it was not a wine for connoisseurs.

But the French have little to

Rich poppy crop lowers heroin price in Hong Kong

By Rajendra Bajpai

Reuter

HONG KONG — A bumper crop of opium in "the Golden Triangle" has pushed heroin prices in Hong Kong's streets to their lowest in seven years and authorities are worried that the British colony may be flooded with the drug this year.

The poppy crop, now being harvested in Thailand, Burma and Laos, may yield some 700 tonnes of opium, 100 tonnes up on last year, and narcotics officials fear the street price will fall further if opium syndicates become involved in a price war.

Hong Kong's narcotics division has had considerable success in checking the smuggling of drugs into the colony over the past few years. But the third consecutive bumper crop in the Golden Triangle has revived fears of increased addiction.

"The price of heroin has already fallen to 28,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$4,230) per kilogramme from 230,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$34,743) in 1979," said C.M. Leung, acting commissioner of the Narcotics Division.

There are also reports of Thai traffickers once again smuggling heroin into Hong Kong, he said, after a four-year period in which their illegal trade had apparently been stamped out by marine police patrols. This indicated that crime syndicates were adopting increasingly aggressive tactics to unload heroin.

The authorities are also worried by the fact that "The Golden Crescent" countries — Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iran — have also harvested their biggest poppy crop.

In the past most of the illicit opium from the region has found its way to the West. But there are fears that the surplus from this

year's crop could be unloaded in Hong Kong and Southeast Asian countries.

But last month a Thai patrol killed opium warlord Lao Su, an ethnic Chinese, when he crossed over from Burma to visit his concubines in Thailand.

"We do not as yet know the implications of Lao Su's death but we are trying to figure out whether it means some reduction in smuggling into Hong Kong," Mr. Leung said.

In 1979 only 10 per cent of new addicts were under 20, but by last year this proportion had doubled.

As more heroin comes in, seizures have increased, from 307 kilograms in 1981 to 532 kilograms last year.

At the same time detection has become more difficult, especially at the airport. Some four million passengers arrive in Hong Kong every year and some of the smugglers show great ingenuity in hiding heroin in body cavities.

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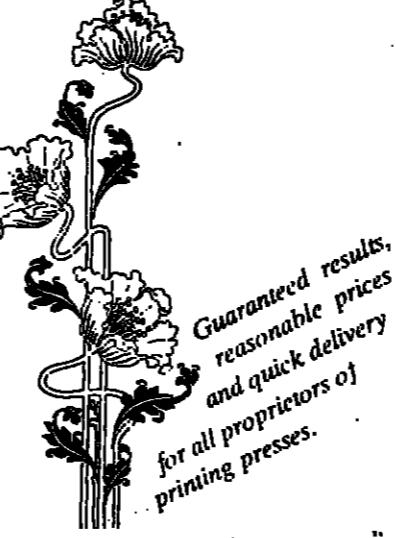
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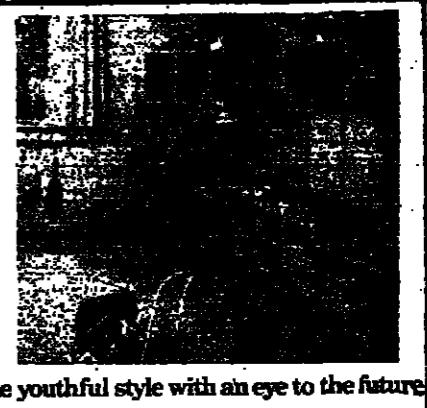
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HOME NEWS

Hassan celebrates 36th birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday celebrates his 36th birthday anniversary. To mark the occasion Prince Hassan has received cables of good wishes from senior officials and prominent Jordanian personalities.

Prince Hassan and his wife Princess Sarvath have three daughters: Princess Raha aged 14, Princess Sumaya aged 12 and Pri-

ness Badiya aged nine, as well as a son Prince Rashid aged four.

On the eve of the occasion Prince Hassan attended a special ceremony held in his honour by the Prince Hassan Ibn Talal Brigade. The brigade's commander made a speech expressing the troops pride in belonging to the brigade which bears Prince Hassan's name. He also thanked the Prince for his efforts in helping to develop the fig-



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, who celebrates his 36th birthday Sunday, Her left to right) Princess Badiya, Princess Sumaya, Princess Raha and Prince Rashid (Photo by Zohrab).

Bar association elects Hadidi chairman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Bar Association Friday elected a new association board to be chaired by Mr. Suleiman Al Hadidi. The elections, which were put off from the previous week because of iniquity, were held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman. Altogether 623 lawyers, out of 853 lawyers registered on East and West Banks of the Jordan River, participated.

Mr. Hadidi came first in the elections with 392 votes followed by his rival Hamid Al Dahleh who captured 201 preferences. The lawyers elected a 10-member board from 24 candidates, the term of which runs until 1985.

The elections were postponed from the previous week because most West Bank lawyers were unable to attend. This was partly due to the closure of the bridges across the River Jordan because of bad weather and partly owing to Israeli restrictions imposed on Arab lawyers.

Awqaf minister urges firm stand against Zionist plan

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif Saturday sent urgent cables and messages to leaders of three Islamic organisations and to ministers of religious affairs in Arab and Islamic nations briefing them on the latest attempt by Zionist extremists to occupy Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

In his correspondence, Mr. Sharif said that the Israeli attempts are part of an overall Zionist plan

Envoy seeks closer links

AMMAN (Petra) — Yugoslav ambassador to Jordan Dusan Zavasnik Saturday voiced his country's desire to develop ties with Jordan in a variety of fields.

He was speaking at a meeting with the Minister of Communications, Mohammad Abd Al Zaben, with whom he discussed ways of bolstering bilateral cooperation in postal and telecommunications affairs, and the prospect of a bilateral exchange of expertise in these fields.

Public works official leaves for Washington

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Works Under-Secretary Mu'tazz Al Bilbeisi left for Washington Saturday to take part in an international symposium on drawing up international contracts which will open Monday at Georgetown University. The symposium is expected to last three weeks.



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Prime Minister Mudar Badran (right) holds discussions Saturday with the Romanian Minister of Construction Abroad Ion Stănescu (centre) who is in Amman to bolster Jordanian-Romanian cooperation. (Petra photo)

Jordan-Iraq transport company announces profits of JD 13.2m

AMMAN (Petra) — The joint Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transport Company (JILTC) last year realised an overall capital profit of JD 13.2 million, of which JD 1.6 million was in cash, Minister of Transport Ali Subheimat announced here Saturday.

The minister was speaking upon returning to Amman from Baghdad where he attended the company's annual general meeting. The meeting reviewed the com-

pany's activities and achievements and decided to split the profits equally between the two countries, the minister said.

During his stay in Baghdad, Mr. Subheimat discussed with his Iraqi counterpart a number of issues of interest to the two countries, particularly matters connected with seaports, land transport and rail freight. Mr. Subheimat also toured construction and development projects currently being im-

plemented in Iraq.

The JILTC was established in 1980 with an initial capital of JD 7.5 million which was later increased to JD 15 million. At present the company owns a fleet of 750 lorries which have already transported nearly one million tonnes of goods from the port of Aqaba to Iraq.

This year the company plans to transport up to 1.5 million tonnes of goods to Iraq.

Badran, Romanian minister hold talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Romanian Minister of Construction Abroad Ion Stănescu discussed with Prime Minister Mudar Badran in Amman Saturday ways of bolstering Jordanian-Romanian cooperation in economic, trade and cultural fields, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

Mr. Stănescu, who arrived in Amman Friday evening, is in Jordan to lead the Romanian team to the Jordanian-Romanian Cooperation Committee, which will start meetings in Amman Sunday according to a Romanian embassy spokesman. He told the Jordan Times that Mr. Stănescu will be staying here until Wednesday for the committee's fifth meeting which is to be devoted to economic and trade matters.

During the meeting with Mr. Badran, the Romanian minister reviewed the topics on the committee's agenda, Petra said. The meeting at the Prime Minister's office was attended by National Planning Council President Dr. Hunna Odeh, Jordan's ambassador to Romania Naser Al Batayneh and Romania's ambassador to Jordan Andrei Cervenecovici.



Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid ibn Shaker (second from left) Saturday holds talks with the visiting Spanish military delegation (Petra photo)

Spanish military team meets Jordan C-in-C

AMMAN (Petra) — The visiting Spanish delegation, led by Spain's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Alvaro Lacalle Lettup Saturday held talks with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid ibn Shaker at the army headquarters in Amman. Also attending the meeting were several senior army offi-

cers.

The delegation, which arrived here Friday, visited the Martyrs' Monument Saturday where they were shown pictures and models that related the story of the Great Arab Revolt, and saw a documentary on the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Malhas opens new mental health clinic

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas opened Saturday a new mental health clinic in Jabal Hussein, the second of its type in Amman.

The clinic is equipped with the most up to date facilities and will offer services to the mentally ill from all parts of the country, a Health Ministry spokesman said. He said that at present the clinic employs four doctors and social workers, and has a laboratory and pharmacy. Another mental health clinic exists on Jabal Luweibeh.

Attending the opening ceremony were the health under-secretary, heads of the ministry's various departments and several invited guests.

RSS to study industrial companies

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) will prepare a study on industrial shareholding companies in Jordan, according to an agreement signed by the RSS and the Amman Chamber of Industry at the former's office Saturday.

The agreement, to be carried out in nine-months' time, provides for the collection of information and data and the preparation and classification of subject matter. The study aims at exploring the position of such companies in the national economy, and their role in satisfying the local needs of consumer goods. The study will include all companies set up during the last ten years.

The agreement was signed by RSS Director-General Albert Butros and Amman Chamber of Industry President Bundar Al Tabtaba.

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Words and bullets

SINCE the plight of the mothers of eight Israeli soldiers captured six months ago in Lebanon by Palestinian fighters is only a microcosm of the plight of thousands of Palestinian mothers whose sons are held in Israeli detention camps, expressions of common suffering should, in theory at least, be heard with an equal chance. But, unfortunately, this is not the case today.

When the Israeli mothers issued an appeal to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Friday to see their sons, they did so through holding a press conference, and only after being invited to see their sons by the deputy commander of the PLO forces, Mr. Khalil Wazir. When the Palestinian mothers and sisters tried to do the same for their sons and brothers held at Al Ansar Camp near Sidon yesterday and earlier, however, the only thing they could hear was the sound of Israeli bullets.

The Israeli mothers should be more at ease than their Palestinian counterparts if they chose to take a look at what is happening to Palestinian prisoners nowadays.

At Al Ansar Camp alone, the number of Palestinian detainees at present is more than 5,300 distributed into many groups. There are other groups of detainees in the Sidon Government House, the military governor headquarters in Tyre, and in a special camp to which even the Red Cross cannot have access. There are also other groups whom the Red Cross is not allowed to visit, and consequently, they are not included in the Red Cross lists. Double arrests of detainees are taking place on daily basis. Many detainees have died under torture, and the Red Cross knows the names of 14 of them. Most of the detainees are from southern Lebanon. Furthermore, there are about 1,000 detainees of the Lebanese nationalist forces and from other nationalities. There are also 1,000 detainees who are ill, of whom 150 are critically ill and need urgent surgeries. Their ailments were caused by torture and detention. There are also more than 100 UNRWA teachers and well over 150 Lebanese employees and teachers threatened by the Israelis with dismissal from their jobs. Since the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, no less than 12,000 Palestinians between the ages of 14 and 70 have been arrested.

Perhaps, the Israeli mothers would feel even more at ease if they took up the issue of an exchange of prisoners with their own government first, and advised it against continuing to torture Palestinians, before they asked the PLO to help them see their sons. The world too should act to put an end to Israeli malpractices and intransigence.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arabs yearn for peace

The comprehensive speech made by His Majesty King Hussein during the Arab League seven-member committee meeting with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is an expression of the Arab yearning for peace. It also embodied a warning against the continuation of the neglect accorded to the Palestinian people's tragedy. It points out the dangerous consequences that might result from the deafening international silence with regards to Israel's inhuman practices against the occupied Arab territories' residents, and the continued Zionist assault on Arab soil and holy places.

The King then emphasised the representative nature of the seven-member committee, and said that its attitude reflects the unanimous Arab position adopted at the Fez summit last September.

The presentation of the Arab views to Britain and other EEC countries is meant to remind the European community of their responsibilities not only towards peace in the Middle East, but also towards world peace in general. The ceaseless Israeli violations of human rights, and the rigid anti-peace stand adopted by the Israeli government are real obstacles to a just and comprehensive peace in the region, while also threatening world stability.

Al Dustour: Israel manipulates U.S.

The efforts made by the Lebanese government to secure the national unity and the territorial integrity of its soil have invariably been met with Israeli counter-moves to preserve the state of chaos in Lebanon thus justifying its continued occupation of Lebanon. The recent attacks against the multinational forces, American troops included, is part of this Zionist plan. The main aim is to convince everyone, including the U.S. administration, that even moving the tripartite negotiations to Washington will not change the state of things unless all the Israeli conditions are squarely met.

The commander of the U.S. Marines in Lebanon, stated that Israeli soldiers meant to humiliate and even threaten the lives of the American troops. U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger made a statement to the same effect. Past experience also testifies to the fact that when it comes to the Israel's war machine, anyone and everyone becomes a target for assault. During the 1967 June war for instance, the American spy-ship Liberty did not escape the Israeli attacks, which led to the death and injury of tens of American Marines.

Sawt Al Shaab: Thatcher responds

The Arab League seven-member committee's visit to Britain has not realised Arab dreams, but it definitely has introduced a new factor into the British view of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The statement by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher that the Arab peace plan, adopted by the Fez summit, offers a historical opportunity for advancement towards peace in the Middle East is a positive sign. Moreover, Mrs. Thatcher's expression of her belief that the Palestinian people should be permitted to practice their right to self-determination is another new sign of progress.

His Majesty King Hussein presented in a coherent and subtle way the Arab attempt to attain peace. His was a timely reminder to the British people and government of the historical responsibility of Britain towards the Middle East conflict and situation. His reference to the continued violations by Israel of human rights, and international legitimacy as expressed in the U.N. partition resolution of 1947 and other U.N. General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, has home effectively.

We believe the British response to the seven-member committee's visit, as expressed by Mrs. Thatcher, is a success. It introduces new elements into the Arab-British relations, and promises a more effective British role in peace efforts for the region.

Governmental study expected to show that U.S. aid to Israel has been more than reported

The following report by James McCartney, headlined "GAO delays its report on U.S. aid to Israel," appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer March 11.

WASHINGTON — An extensive study of U.S. aid to Israel was completed by the General Accounting Office more than month ago, but a lengthy GAO "internal review" has prevented its delivery to Congress.

The politically sensitive study, billed by the GAO as the most comprehensive ever undertaken by a government agency, is expected to show that the total amount of aid to Israel has been far more than commonly understood, perhaps as much as 30 per cent more.

Begun last summer, the study had been expected to be made public by Feb. 1, before Congress began considering new requests for aid to Israel.

When asked about the study on Wednesday, a GAO official said it probably would not be made public until about June 1, long after Congress has made its basic decisions regarding the aid programme.

GAO auditors have said privately that the political "sensitivity of the subject" has battled up the report, and they acknowledge that the internal review is "taking longer than usual."

One said earlier this week: "We know it's controversial ... this thing has practically killed me ... it's getting a heavy review."

The same auditor said that many members of Congress, in both the House and the Senate, had inquired about the report, and he added, "some people are interested in U.S. not saying too much. Some others are saying: 'where is it?'"

Some members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, who prefer not to be identified, have been enraged by delays in receiving the report and have demanded an explanation from the GAO. They have been told that the report has not been completed.

A meeting has been scheduled for today (March 11) between Frank Conahan, director of the GAO's international division, and staff members of the committee to

discuss problems that have been encountered in the review.

In a preliminary report to Congress on the study, the GAO estimated in August that the total amount of aid to Israel since 1948 had been more than \$22.5 billion.

Pentagon and State Department reports, which are commonly accepted as accurate by Congress, have set the figure for that period at about \$17.2 billion.

The GAO itself initiated the study, which has attracted widespread interest in Congress.

GAO officials have said they undertook the study because Israel received more U.S. aid money than any other country and because many aspects of the Israeli aid programme were unique.

The GAO, which acts as a con-

gressional watchdog on the executive branch, assigned five auditors to conduct the study, and they completed most of the work by the end of the Christmas holidays.

A preliminary report was approved by the GAO's international division, but work apparently has been slowed by questions from GAO attorneys and from the top management of the agency, which is headed by Controller General Charles Bowsher.

A GAO official said it might be possible to provide a "preliminary draft" of the study soon to congressional committees that deal with Israeli aid, while Congress is still considering the aid issue.

A final decision about providing such a preliminary version has not

been made, he said, but there is no chance that the study will be made public in the next several weeks because the GAO routinely permits executive-branch agencies to comment on its reports before they are made public.

The report has not yet been sent to executive-branch agencies for their comments, he said, and may not be for some time. For that reason, the report is not expected to be made public before June 1, he said.

The Reagan administration has asked Congress for \$2.4 billion in Israeli military and economic aid for the coming fiscal year, the same figure requested for the current year. Last year, Congress added \$200 million to the administration request.

Military experts challenge Reagan's MX missile case

By Christopher Hanson

Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's case for building the costly MX missile hinges on an assumption, seriously challenged by some military experts, that Soviet warheads are accurate enough to destroy U.S. missiles in a surprise attack.

"They have the capacity today to destroy over 90 per cent of our Minuteman missile force," a Pentagon official said. He told Reuters advanced Soviet SS-18 missiles were accurate enough to hit within about 200 metres of U.S. missile silos half the time, and Moscow has enough nuclear weapons to ensure destruction of all 1,000 of those silos by aiming more than one warhead at each.

The administration, which says the \$40-billion MX is needed to match Soviet missile accuracy, is struggling to find a deployment plan acceptable to Congress that could protect the new missile from a surprise attack. But, in a remark typical of the debate within the defence establishment over missile accuracy, a U.S. intelligence source told Reuters official calculations of Soviet accuracy were "laughable" and far off the mark.

This source said these missiles were not nearly accurate enough for a first strike. The Pentagon official, disputing these statements, said: "we have seen Soviet missile tests which demonstrate accuracy as good as or better than the Minuteman 3 (the most advanced U.S.

intercontinental missile)."

But the intelligence source said doubts about Soviet missile accuracy were fairly widespread within the small group of military analysts who had access to the highly restricted missile test data. Among private experts who agree with this assessment is Kosta Tzidis of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who told Reuters the Pentagon has greatly exaggerated Soviet missile accuracy.

The Pentagon official said Moscow had built enough highly accurate warheads, with relatively large explosive yields, to devote two or three to each U.S. Minuteman silo and still leave enough in reserve for a second attack against the United States.

William Kincaide of the Private Arms Control Association says a successful Soviet first strike would be precluded by what he called the impossibility of aiming more than one warhead at each silo. The first explosion would destroy or deflect a following missile, he said.

But the Pentagon dismisses this argument. Others argue that Soviet missiles are less accurate than missile test information shows because of the effects of wind, snow, rain and gravitational fields in the North Pole region, over which missiles would be fired in an actual war.

Another argument is that Washington does not need highly accurate MX-type missiles that could destroy Soviet missile silos since those silos would almost certainly be empty when the U.S. warheads arrived.

Ominous signs for Afghan guerrillas

By Brian Williams

Reuter

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Muslim guerrillas in Pakistan have started returning to Afghanistan in force for a new and unpredictable year of fighting against the Soviet-backed regime of Babrak Karmal.

The coming spring months are likely to give the rebels their first hard evidence of any change in Soviet policy now that Moscow's new leaders have settled in. Western diplomats said they would also be closely watching events in Afghanistan for clues about wider Soviet attitudes under new Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov.

The signs so far are ominous for the guerrillas. Western intelligence sources have reported significant troop redeployment and re-equipment since Mr. Andropov succeeded Leonid Brezhnev as party general secretary in his death in November. The leadership change coincided with the normal winter lull in Afghanistan's guerrilla war, so the full implications of military developments will not be known until fighting starts again in earnest.

A rebel commander from the Kandahar area, Mohammad Ismail, said up to 1,000 families a month headed for Pakistan this

probably at the end of the month.

But some international relief agency officials in Peshawar, capital of Pakistan's northwestern Frontier province, believe a harder Soviet line has already emerged. The officials, who care for guerrilla wounded, described the winter as the worst endured by the guerrillas and their supporters since Soviet troops arrived in Afghanistan in December 1979.

Patrols were stepped up along guerrilla infiltration routes along the Pakistan border, trapping some rebels in snow-covered winter passes. One relief agency last month treated about 30 guerrillas for frostbite after they had taken a week to break through troops encircling their mountain top position in Afghanistan's Loghar province. Western intelligence sources have also reported heavier than normal winter bombing of villages around the Afghan capital Kabul and the second largest city, Kandahar, resulting in an unseasonal arrival of refugees in Pakistan.

The key question for most Western diplomats is whether the signs of intensified fighting ahead indicate a long-term Soviet aim of achieving complete military victory or a short-term plan to win a strong negotiating position at United Nations-sponsored peace talks.

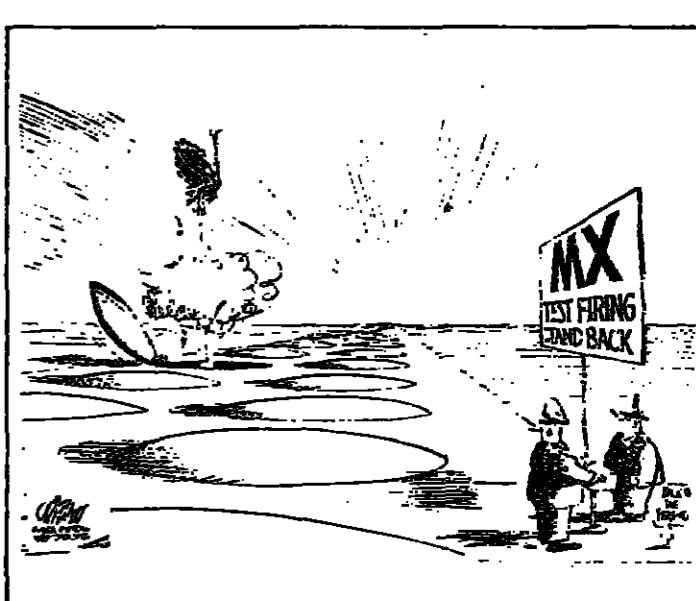
The indirect peace talks between Afghanistan and neighbours Iran and Pakistan through a United Nations intermediary resume in Geneva next month when deten-

tions are likely on key points such as the return of nearly three million refugees in Pakistan.

A major hurdle for U.N. peace envoy Diego Cordovez is finding refugee representatives acceptable to both sides in the conflict. Authoritative sources said the Kabul government made clear to Mr. Cordovez during his recent visit to the region that there was no place for Pakistani-based guerrilla leaders who regard themselves as the refugees' government-in-exile.

Guerrilla leaders believe significant military gains this year would strengthen their case for joining the peace negotiations. "We need a Tet offensive like the Viet Cong staged in Vietnam in 1968," one rebel leader said.

The rebels already claim to control most of Afghanistan's countryside and during winter they staged several spectacular hit and run attacks, in one of which they blacked out Kabul's power supplies for several days. However, Ismail said without anti-aircraft weapons and heavy artillery the rebels could not take and hold the biggest cities to draw world attention to their strength.



U.S. may have to bow to allies and offer compromise in medium range missile talks

By Jeffrey Antevil

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Reagan administration officials, under growing pressure from allies, say the United States remains willing to compromise on medium-range missiles in Europe if Moscow meets several key conditions. But the officials voiced frustration that West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other European leaders have spoken out publicly in urging the U.S. to make the next move in stalled U.S.-Soviet negotiations in Geneva.

They said public pressure made it less likely Moscow would show flexibility. As Washington has been demanding before it moves off President Reagan's "zero option" proposal. They conceded, however, the U.S. may have to bow to the allies and offer a fresh initiative before the medium-range missile talks go into a two-month recess on March 29. White House spokesman Larry Speakes

said last Monday he did not expect a new U.S. proposal by that date. But he refused to repeat the statement, saying only that the president had not made any decisions.

Other officials said whenever move first, the U.S. position remains as it has been for months — it is willing to consider an "interim" accord that provides for less than the zero option ideal of no U.S. or Soviet medium-range land-based missiles.

But this is conditioned on Moscow accepting four principles spelled out by Mr. Reagan last month: U.S.-Soviet equality in missiles, no shifting of Soviet SS-20s from Europe to Asia, no counting of British and French nuclear forces, and adequate provisions to verify compliance with agreed limits.

The U.S. also insists that it be free to choose a "mix" of Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles to be deployed in Europe to offset medium-range Soviet missiles already in place. Last summer, U.S. and Soviet negotiators in Geneva

worked out an informal agreement under which Moscow would have retained 75 triple-warhead SS-20s while the U.S. deployed 75 Cruise launchers with four missiles each. The understanding was aborted by Washington because it failed to provide for Pershings.

Unlike slow Cruise missiles, Pershings, which could hit Soviet targets from planned West German bases in less than 10 minutes, are equivalent to the mobile SS-20s, the Pentagon says.

The Pentagon says a 1979 NATO plan to deploy 108 Pershings along with 464 Cruise missiles starting next December if there are no results in Geneva, gives Moscow an incentive to bar gain. "If we just had Cruise missiles," one official said, "they wouldn't even be talking to us."

U.S. officials said Mr. Reagan's terms are similar to, although somewhat less explicit than, conditions set out in Bonn by Juergen Todenhofer, disarmament spokesman for the governing Chris-

tian Democratic Union (CDU). Mr. Todenhofer called for dramatically lower but equal ceilings on U.S. and Soviet missiles — a goal Washington shares, on the road to what it hopes will be an eventual agreement for zero on each side.

On-site inspection

The Bonn official called for on-site inspection, going further than the U.S. has in public on what constitutes adequate verification, for global coverage to take account of SS-20s in Siberia, and freedom for each to decide which weapons to retain. The last two conditions are similar to U.S. demands for a separate freeze in Asia to prevent shifting of SS-20s there and for the right to include Pershing-2s in the Western arsenal.

U.S. officials said the Kremlin has refused to signal any flexibility on these terms and has not even said whether, in achieving its counter-proposal to reduce Soviet

missiles in Europe to 162, it would scrap those over the limit. Without such a pledge, they said, Moscow could simply put SS-20s in storage or move them to the Soviet far east, from where they could be quickly redeployed to Europe.

The Soviet offer to scale down to 162 is designed to match land- and sea-based British and French nuclear missiles. The latest U.S. intelligence estimate is that Moscow has more than 350 SS-20s in place, about two-thirds of them aimed at West European targets, West Germany, Britain and Italy — which are due to get the first U.S. missiles — have joined in urging Mr. Reagan to make an early compromise proposal in the 15-month-long Geneva talks.

This would leave some SS-20s in place and allow the U.S. to deploy a reduced number of the Cruises and Pershings now scheduled for basing in five West European countries.

"When they're really ready to move for agreement, it will be obvious to everyone," he said. Until then, "it's not clear to us what we would gain by compromising what is the best outcome (the zero option)."

DP/14-150

A home from home for the doubly disabled in Jordan

By David Ward

AMMAN — When the Jordanian Ministry of Social Affairs asked Gunhild Sehlén to raise the intake of her home for mentally retarded children, she refused.

The ministry then offered to supply new buildings and provide the money for the running costs of a new extension which would almost double the size of the home. This, Mrs. Sehlén was cautiously prepared to accept. "It made me happy, but apprehensive at the same time", she said recently. "It meant our work was being recognised. But it will mean much more responsibility."

Many of the children are doubly disabled, they are not only mentally handicapped, but are also Palestine refugees.

Gunhild Sehlén comes from Sweden. She is a slight, handsome woman. For 14 years she has been director of the "Swedish Home". The Home is a cluster of low modern buildings, erected in 1975, high up in an area of dusty rolling countryside some 12 kilometres west of Amman. The Home overlooks the small town of Suweileh. There are black cows on the open land in front of the Home. There is a Bedouin tent flapping in the warm breeze. Half a dozen young

children from the Home are being taken for a ride in a small cart drawn by a donkey. All the children suffer from autism.

Private contributions

The Swedish Home is run by a non-profit making organisation "for individual relief" called "IM". It was founded in 1938 and works in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. It depends mainly on funds from private voluntary contributions in Sweden.

The Swedish Home at Suweileh in Jordan has close links with UNRWA. Palestinians account for 60 per cent of the children who attend the Home, and 80 per cent of the staff.

The reason that Mrs. Sehlén initially rejected the ministry's request for expansion was partly because of "IM's" preference for giving help to limited numbers.

"IM" started work in Jordan in 1966 and its first care home, a rented villa, catered for 15 severely mentally handicapped children. In 1970 a second centre was opened before the present home was built at Suweileh in 1975. Here a staff of 70 provides help for about 200 mentally handicapped children and young people.

The extension to the Swedish

Home is due to open early in 1983 and will expand the number of severely retarded children in care from 36 to 66. There will also be a day centre, the first of its kind in Jordan. (There are already several day centres for less retarded cases).

The Home comprises a care-home, a day centre with a special school, a vocational training centre, and a sheltered workshop. The manager of the training centre is a Jerusalem-born Palestinian, Inaam Budeiri.

"Our main aim", she says, "is integration. Not as workers, very few will ever be able to achieve so much, but if they take care of their appearance and have self respect then they can be accepted into the community".

Self-respect, she feels, is of major importance. "They tell me when they go out they are followed by hordes of children. If they are laughed at, all our work goes in a snap of the fingers."

Part of the work of integration consists of regularly listening to the radio news and study of geography, even for the most retarded. The children clearly feel a strong sense of identity. The many and profuse potted plants around the centre are not the property of the centre, the children

ask, "they're ours."

Outside too there are small trees and hardy shrubs. "IM" owns several acres of land and could be self-supporting in fruit and vegetables. Many kinds of fruit are harvested including almonds. Almonds, rosemary and lavender have been dried, packed and sold by the Home. But a lack of water limits the extent of the garden produce.

The slow growth of the Home reflects the resistance that has been encountered. Inaam Budeiri says, "It took a lot of convincing to get people to agree to starting the vocational training centre... but now they see we are a success."

Salma Nimir is one of the Swedish Home's social workers responsible for contact between the children and their own families. She was born in Nablus in the West Bank and came to Jordan in 1973. Traditionally, mentally retarded children have been regarded as a burden on the family, she says, since their working capacity is restricted or non-existent.

According to her they were often "forgotten" and even hidden away, which made it difficult to identify the size of the problem.

Miss Nimir says in recent years there has been less "hiding away". One positive effect of the United Nations International Year of Disabled Persons, she believes, was to make families less ashamed of their less fortunate members.

No rejects

On one point Salma Nimir is adamant. "We never accept rejects", she says. New admissions to the Home follow an application from parents. "But we never accept applications from rich families and neither do we when the handicapped child is an only child."

"And the children have to be loved. If a family says good riddance, then we will not accept the child."

Miss Nimir sees parental interest as a way to extending the activities of the Home. Increasingly, she says, parents are

asking "what can we do to help?" Miss Nimir hopes soon to start groups to which parents can come for guidance and counselling.

Visitors to the Swedish Home at Suweileh meet clusters of children in the class rooms, some curious, bright-eyed, others busy with tidying or cleaning. ADL (Adaptation for Daily Living) is one of the main training principles. The teachers feel self respect among the children begins with simple skills such as eating with a spoon, and matters of personal hygiene. A child who has learnt to dress himself has a much greater chance of being integrated into his home community.

In 1975 the vocational training centre was started, to meet the needs of those children who had reached the age of 16 and yet who still needed further help. The centre continues the school subjects of reading and writing, mixing with, and meeting people, study visits and camping. Every summer the home holds an annual camp on the Dead Sea coast.

In the centre, the girls are weaving, making carpets, rugs, scarves and hats. Inaam Budeiri explains. "In the Middle East it's difficult to send girls out... this work they can do at home."

The older boys are working in the carpentry workshops. Around the walls are things they have made - boxes to hold tape cassettes, painted toy blocks, wooden stools, and hanging flower baskets ("very popular in England"). Leftovers are made into coasters for glasses. In another room there is a stone polishing machine and in the entrance hall are small pendants and other items of simple jewelry the boys have made.

"They make what they can, and what will sell", says Miss Budeiri. Hand-made ceramic pots will sell easily in Sweden but not in local markets, she says.

Baq'a Centre

A few kilometres away from the Swedish Home, beside the road from Amman to the Syrian border is Baqa'a refugee camp. It too, has a centre for retarded children.

The Baqa'a centre consists of some low buildings around a small whitewashed courtyard. The main room is a prefabricated hut painted in bright colours. The centre is run by a woman who lives in the camp; and the centre's costs are paid for by the Jordanian Mental Health Society, a charity subsidised by the Ministry of Social Affairs.

There is room for 30 mildly retarded children. More severe cases are admitted, if they are lucky, to the Swedish Home. At Baqa'a, the main aim is to help with simple reading skills and behaviour, including table manners and personal cleanliness.

The principal is optimistic and believes there will be improvements. But she estimates there are at least 1,000 mentally retarded children in the camp (total population, approx 60,000) many of whom are still "hidden away" by their families, despite the International Year of Disabled Persons.

The main causes, intermarriage and overmedication of pregnant women, she feels, are finally being recognised. She is also hopeful about the chances of her children - teasing of mentally retarded children is not common in the camp.

-- Palestine Refugees Today, a UNRWA newsletter.



Above: The older disabled boys getting training in carpentry at the workshop of the Swedish Home.

Below: Small children are getting training in motoric movement.



365 days may not be enough for U.N. anniversary celebrations

By Anthony Goodman

Reuter

Youth Year in 1985, the International Year of Peace in 1986 and the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987.

During these years, which try to focus attention on problems of social or economic development, governments are urged to set up national commissions to plan appropriate practical projects. Some 170 states and territories did so for the International Year of the Child in 1979.

The special observances are proclaimed in resolutions adopted by the General Assembly to publicise some cause or concern. Some may rate no more than a special message or a concert. For others, an international conference is arranged.

Disarmament week, which begins annually on U.N. Day, was instituted by the assembly at its first special session on the question of disarmament, in 1978.

It invited all states to carry out special activities to underline the dangers of the arms race.

The following year the assembly declared the 1980s to be the second disarmament decade, noting that the first, the 1970s, had been less than a resounding success.

Many of U.N.'s special dates are motivated by specific political issues, with South Africa particularly.

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, concerned almost entirely with that country, with little reference to racism in other parts of the world.

The day is observed annually on March 21, the anniversary of the killing by South African police of 68 Africans demonstrating against the pass laws at Sharpeville in 1960.

Beginning on May 25, Africa Liberation Day, the U.N. marks the week of solidarity with the peoples of Namibia and all other colonial territories as well as those in South Africa, fighting for freedom, independence and human rights.

Other dates include June 16, the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggling People of South Africa, Aug. 9 which celebrates the struggle of women in South Africa and Aug. 26, Namibia Day.

Less political observances include International Women's Day (March 8), World Meteorological Day (March 23), World Health Day (April 7), World Telecommunication Day (May 17), World Environment Day (June 5), International Literacy Day (Sept. 8), Universal Children's Day (First Monday in October), Universal Postal Union Day (Oct. 9), World Food Day (Oct. 16) and World Development Information Day (Oct. 24). With diary space dwindling, even the U.N. itself was moved in 1979 to report "...a widespread feeling that the law of diminishing returns has already set in, particularly now that almost every calendar year is being celebrated in connection with one subject or another."



The mentally disabled children help in the kitchen too

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
JORDAN TELEVISION	Collection 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:30 British Press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Music For The Court of Louis XIV 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Big Band Sound 09:00 World News 09:30 News about Britain 09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 10:00 Match of the Month and Competition 10:15 World News 10:45 Reflections 10:15 The Economist's Young 11:00 World News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15 People and Politics 11:45 Sports Review 12:15 Classical Review 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:45 News About Britain 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Play of the Week 15:00 World News 15:45 Sportscast 16:00 World News 16:45 News about Britain 16:15 Radio News 16:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 21:00 22:00 Workshop 21:15 Marriage 21:30 World News 21:45 Commentary 22:15 Letterbox 22:30 Sports 22:45 Half-Hour 23:00 Land Harwood's Musical Meetings 23:15 The Pleasure's You're 24:00 World News 00:45 Science in Action 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sportscast 08:00 World News 08:45 News about Britain 21:15 Radio News 21:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 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SPORTS

Spencer scores runaway victory in South African Grand Prix

KYALAMI South Africa (R) — Freddie Spencer, rising U.S. star of the motorcycle racing world, staked his claim to this year's 500 cc championship with a runaway win in the opening South African Grand Prix here Saturday.

The 21-year-old from Louisiana, who finished third in his first full season last year, claimed his third Grand Prix triumph after leading for all but the first of the 30 laps.

Spencer took the flag on his Honda 7.4 seconds ahead of the Yamaha of fellow American Kenny Roberts, three times world champion, in an average speed of 167.98 kilometres per hour.

To crown his victory, he set a fastest lap on the 4.1-km circuit of one minute 31.45 seconds, an average speed of 170.98 kph.

"I'd aimed to build up a lead from the start," Spencer said after his victory. "And once I did that I just kept riding hard."

Roberts accepted defeat from his younger rival with good grace. "I knew there was no chance of catching Freddie unless he got caught up with the back markers," he said.

The best battle of the day was for third place, with Britain's Ron

Haslam pipping French outsider Marc Fontan after swapping places throughout the race.

Haslam was taking part in only his fourth 500 cc race and was clearly delighted with his debut for the works Honda team. "It was a great race with Fontan, but I always felt I had the legs to beat him," he said.

The only man to head the lap chart besides Spencer was Honda teammate Takazuma Katayama. After dropping back and battling for fifth place with American Randy Mamola, the Japanese rider left the track at Ford corner on the 27th lap.

Mamola, who gashed his hand badly when lifting his bike before the race, claimed fifth spot, leading home Italian reigning world champion Franco Uncini, his team-mate, on what was a disappointing day for Suzuki.

Italian Leandro Becheroni and Switzerland's Michel Frutschi were taken to hospital after a collision. Becheroni was detained in hospital but he was not seriously hurt. Frutschi was soon discharged.

Barry Sheene, defying those who said he would never return to racing after a terrible practice

crash last year, finished a solid 10th on his Suzuki.

The 32-year-old Briton is already well ahead of his self-imposed target in what he calls his "convalescence period"—he was aiming to make the top 15 Saturday.

The 250 cc event provided a thrilling battle between Frenchmen Jean-Francois Balde and Herve Guilleux and Didier de Radigues of Belgium.

They raced neck-and-neck for most of the second half but then Guilleux nosed in front and appeared to be heading for victory on his Kawasaki until Balde streaked past down the main straight on the 28th and last lap.

Guilleux complained afterwards that he had been blocked a number of times by the Chevalier teammates but said he would not lodge an official protest.

He had to settle for third place after De Radigues also passed him on the finishing line.

American superbike champion Eddie Lawson, so impressive in practice when he gained second place on the grid, finished eighth on the 15 rounds. Braxton finished strongly to win the last two

Spinks 'the Untouchable' becomes undisputed world boxing champion

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (R) — Michael Spinks stayed on the run — "It was like the television show 'the Untouchables' — to become undisputed world light-heavyweight boxing champion here Friday night.

Spinks, the World Boxing Association (WBA) champion, beat fellow-American Dwight Braxton, the World Boxing Council (WBC) titleholder, on the scorecards of all three judges to win the 15-round showdown at the Atlantic City Convention Hall.

Peppering Braxton's face with snapping left jabs, while avoiding the relentless Braxton during most of the bout, the 26-year-old Spinks became the first fighter for 11 years to become undisputed holder of the light-heavyweight crown.

"It was like the television show 'the Untouchables'." Spinks said.

"I became untouchable."

"I wouldn't let him get close. He couldn't land a punch, hardly. I kept moving and stayed out of the way. And I hit him with the jab all night. I beat him with the jab."

Spinks, in winning his 27th consecutive professional fight, took 10 of the 15 rounds. Braxton finished strongly to win the last two

rounds.

Braxton, losing for only the second time, commented: "It was more or less a track meet. I had to catch him. I thought he'd stand still."

In the eighth round, Braxton, nearly eight inches (20.3 centimetres) shorter than the 6-foot 2½ inch (1.89 metres) Spinks, came closest to catching his man.

He caught the WBA champion with a solid right to the chest that dropped Spinks on the seat of his pants. But Spinks rose at the count of four and then took a mandatory standing eight-count. It was the only knockdown of the fight.

Braxton also won the next round when he connected with some punishing rights. But Spinks regained control from the 10th to 13th before having to weather Braxton's strong finish.

Braxton blamed his defeat on his failure to apply more pressure on Spinks.

"I didn't stick to my fight plan like I should have," said Braxton, 30, who turned professional at the age of 25 after serving 5½ years in prison for armed robbery. "My plan was to stay on top of him. But I let him run and hustle. And I didn't press the issue like I should."

Braxton became the first fighter to go the distance with Spinks since Spinks won the title from Mustafa Muhammad in 1981.

Both fighters were reportedly guaranteed \$2.1 million, making it the richest light-heavyweight title fight ever.

The last fighter to win the undisputed light-heavyweight title was American Bob Foster when he knocked out Vincente Rondon of Argentina in April 1972.

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ECONOMY

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. wholesale prices rise 0.1%

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. wholesale prices were almost static last month, the government said Friday, continuing the pattern of moderate inflation that has delighted the Reagan administration. Wholesale prices, which foreshadow prices consumers can expect in coming months, rose by only 0.1 per cent in February after a record monthly fall of a whole percentage point in January. Energy prices fell sharply last month, for the third time in succession, but were just offset by a rise in food prices. The price of heating oil fell by 7.2 per cent and petrol prices went down five per cent, but groceries were 0.6 per cent dearer.

Saudia profits total \$1.1b in 1981

RIYADH (OPECNA) — Saudia, the Saudi national airlines, earned \$1.1 billion in profits during 1981, according to the company's annual report. In 1981 the company received nine of the 10 Boeing aircraft it had ordered. Seventeen TriStars and 11 Airbuses are expected to join the fleet by 1994.

B.L. losses drop to £126m

LONDON (R) — State-owned carmaker British Leyland (B.L.) Friday reported it had halved its losses last year, boosting the company's hopes of returning to profitability by 1984. B.L.'s losses for 1982 dropped to £1.26 million (\$190 million) from £245 million (\$370 million) the previous year, company results showed. The B.L. corporate plan calls for a small operating profit by 1983/84. Government aid to the company for 1983/84 has been fixed at £100 million (\$150 million), a substantial fall from the £370 million (\$435 million) in state funds B.L. received in 1982/83. B.L. had already received orders worth more than £50 million (\$75 million) for the Maestro, whose success follows the strong sales record of the Metro, a small car B.L. introduced in 1980.

Coffee prices soar in London

LONDON (R) — Coffee prices jumped to their highest level in London for three years Friday despite an overall abundance of coffee on the world market. Coffee for delivery in May, the most actively traded month, rose from a low of £1,761 per tonne Thursday to a high of £1,878 Friday, amid speculation by some traders that it could soon reach £2,000. The rise was caused by a squeeze on immediately available supplies, which traders said was partly due to a cut in export quotas last week by the International Coffee Organisation (ICO), which includes both producers and the major consuming nations. The cut in export quotas followed last October's withdrawal of two consuming nations, Hungary and Israel, from the ICO, in which consumers agree to buy their coffee exclusively from producer members of the organisation.

U.K. annual inflation rate rises

LONDON (R) — Britain's annual inflation rate rose last month for the first time since May, government figures showed Friday. The growth of retail prices rose to a yearly rate of 5.3 per cent in February compared with 4.9 per cent, the lowest in 13 years, in January. The main price increases were for clothes, cigarettes, alcohol and cars, the department of employment said in its report on the figures. Finance Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe said in his annual budget speech to parliament on Tuesday that inflation would rise to six per cent by the end of this year.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Perhaps Stanley and I fight too much. The last time I hugged him, he thought I was putting a wrestling hold on him."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WAULF

OPTIV

LANSID

TAIXLY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: MERGE SUAVE FRACAS UNFOLD
Answer: How their guest knew he was no longer welcome—HE "GUESSED"

French finance minister demands W.German mark be devalued

France threatens to quit European Monetary System

BRUSSELS (R) — French Finance Minister Jacques Delors Saturday threw the future of the European Monetary System (EMS) into doubt by announcing France will quit the currency float unless West Germany revalues its currency.

A grim-faced Mr. Delors speaking to journalists before the start of a crisis meeting of European Economic Community finance ministers here said that at present he saw no basis for an agreement.

"I come to this meeting a little sad, thinking that if nothing evolves France will quit the European Monetary System," Mr. Delors said.

"I consider at this moment there is no basis for an accord," he added in answer to journalists' questions.

Mr. Delors placed the blame for the present crisis in the monetary system squarely on the shoulders of the Bonn government.

He said he had come to the meeting out of politeness after it was

called Friday by West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg.

His government had had contacts at "the highest levels" with Bonn in the past few days but these had thrown up a whole range of disagreements.

"We are at odds over external trade policy, notably over relations with the United States and Japan. We are at odds over the community's budget... as well as the joint monetary policy," Mr. Delors said. He described the disagreements as "very grave."

Mr. Delors spoke minutes after Mr. Stoltenberg arrived at the EEC headquarters. The West German minister declined to comment on the likely outcome of the meeting, saying only that the monetary situation was very difficult.

He said he called the meeting as chairman of the community's council of ministers after some countries asked for talks.

West German Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl also refused to speculate on the likelihood

of a settlement. He said he expected the talks to run on until late Saturday.

The meeting was preceded by detailed consultations between senior treasury and central bank officials who, according to diplomats, were considering a simultaneous revaluation of the mark and a downward shift in the value of the French franc.

The French finance minister did not rule out a devaluation of the franc but made clear it was mainly up to Bonn to ease the intense strains on the EMS.

"The European community is in crisis," he said. "I have been fighting this week for Europe but not against arrogant and incomprehensible people. What can I do?"

He added: "If the West Germans don't want to revalue, if they don't want to be more European... I have no intention of doing it. It is with sadness I am here. I will not give in."

Mr. Delors expressed surprise that other countries whose currencies have also been battered by

a flood of investors' cash into marks had indicated they were not prepared to devalue.

But Belgian Finance Minister Willy de Clercq said there was no reason for his country to devalue. The Belgian franc, like the Danish krone and the Irish punt, has been pushed to its EMS floor-level against the mark for most of the last two weeks.

Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens and his Luxembourg counterpart Pierre Werner, whose two countries are linked in a monetary union, held bilateral talks to concert their position ahead of the finance ministers' meeting.

Danish Finance Minister Hennig Christopherson told reporters he would seek to avoid a devaluation of the krone.

Italian Treasury Minister Giovanni Goris was non-committal about a possible devaluation of the Italian lira, although diplomats said they expected it to move down slightly if an overall realignment was agreed.

U.S. electronic industry shows signs of recovery from Japanese onslaught

markets.

To nurture and protect their own suppliers, U.S. computer makers are building up closer working relationships with their component suppliers — sharing quality improvement projects and, in some cases, sharing research and development.

IBM has gone even further by buying 12 per cent of Intel, one of its major semiconductor suppliers.

On a larger scale, several of the largest U.S. chip and computer makers have joined forces in two co-operative research and development organisations that will undertake basic research on behalf of all members.

U.S. companies see this as a quick response to a U.S. Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) report on the effects of the recent Japanese onslaught on the U.S. semiconductor market.

The SIA report was published on Feb. 3.

The SIA report argued that Japanese industrial policies were substantially weakening the U.S. semiconductor industry and threatening its future.

The industry points out that the U.S.-Japan semiconductor battle has been centred on the vital market for 64-K RAM (64 Kilobit Random Access Memory) devices used in computers.

The report notes that the Japanese strategy in 64-K RAMs could be compared with its approach to the ball bearing industry in the 1950s, when Japanese pro-

ducers drove many foreign competitors out of the market.

In effect, the Japanese see the 64-K RAM as the thin end of the wedge which could lead to overall domination of the U.S. semiconductor market.

According to the SIA report, U.S. 64-K RAM producers made huge pre-tax losses on RAM sales through 1981 and 1982.

Collective losses by U.S. producers in the third quarter of last year totalled \$12 million on revenues of \$26.4 million.

The U.S. concerns attribute their losses to Japanese-led price cutting.

As a result of the Japanese offensive, U.S. companies have cut back their RAM activity, the report says. Whereas 12 to 15 U.S. companies participated in the market for the previous generation of 16-K RAMs — only five currently make 64-K RAMs.

The impact of Japanese competition goes beyond losses incurred by these companies, however, because memory chips are the "bellwether of the industry" — in effect, the skill gained in memory chip development is of such a high order that corporations developing them are at a competitive advantage in other sectors of the industry.

The industry points out that this will be a long, uphill battle. It is recognition by the Reagan administration of the Japanese competitive threat that has given the industry its second recent boost.

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The report notes that the Japanese strategy in 64-K RAMs could be compared with its approach to the ball bearing industry in the 1950s, when Japanese pro-

ducers drove many foreign competitors out of the market.

In effect, the Japanese see the 64-K RAM as the thin end of the wedge which could lead to overall domination of the U.S. semiconductor market.

According to the SIA report, U.S. 64-K RAM producers made huge pre-tax losses on RAM sales through 1981 and 1982.

Collective losses by U.S. producers in the third quarter of last year totalled \$12 million on revenues of \$26.4 million.

The U.S. concerns attribute their losses to Japanese-led price cutting.

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FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAR. 20, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Because of planetary influences you could run into some problems of a minor nature early in the day, but conditions return to normal later. Conserve your energies.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to understand the expectations of those who have power over your affairs today. Strive for more prestige.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Morning is fine for studying new interests and making plans for the future. Show more thoughtfulness for others.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Finish that work you started and then be off to the fascinating activities that appeal to you. Sidestep an opponent.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You can work out a difficult problem with the help of others early in the day. Plan the new week wisely.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Attend to routine chores early in the day so you'll have time for social activities later. Show others you have poise.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Daytime hours are best for being with good friends and relatives, and reserve personal duties for the evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Pay more attention to family members and have more harmony at home. Make plans to have more abundance in the future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take those extra steps that are needed to gain your personal aims. Sidestep one who likes to impose on you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 20) Try to please close ties today instead of worrying about personal affairs. Engage in favorite hobby.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 21 to Jan. 20) Daytime hours are best for handling personal matters. Schedule social activities for the coming week.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take care of private affairs early in the day and then join congenials at recreation you enjoy. Have a delightful time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You need to apply yourself more to gain your personal aims at this time. Show more consideration for the one you love.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will want to please others and will be willing to obey all rules and regulations in order to do so. Direct attention along entertainment lines and service to others for best results in lifetime.

"The Star's impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Herb L. Risteen

ACROSS	30	Golden Fleece man	45	Hells Canyon state	22	— bean
1	Provender	32	Bulldog painter	48	Woeful word	23
5	Today's fashion	34	Spanish painter	51	Tock tiffin	24
9	Wading bird	35	Clinic worker	54	Twofold	25
13	Depend	36	Hillside, Burns	55	Florida	Grandiose
14	Type of aircraft	37	Heavenly Altar	56	Region	story
16	Stake, e.g.	38	Witchy Improper	57	"Red boy!"	27
18	Click beetle	39	Merit	58	Red and Black	City on the
19	Calendar abbr.	40	Skeptic	59	Farm animals	Webab
20	Goose genus	41	Vocation	60	Exist	Alabama or
21	Satirical	42	Kind of school	61	Strength	Georgia, one
23	Except	43	Arboreal	62	Alumnus, for short	30
25	Briny	44	Guard	63	Those who restore	Dislike
26	Put on guard	45	school	64	buildings	buildings
29	Tiny particle	46	44	3	Fiercely	31
					Tournament	Knock

WORLD

4 white Zimbabweans killed

HARARE (R) — Four whites were killed Friday night by gunmen in Zimbabwe's troubled Matabeleland Province, police said Saturday.

Informed sources said the victims were an elderly couple and their two grandchildren, shot when six gunmen raided a farm at Nyamandlovu, about 150 kilometres northwest of Bulawayo, capital of Matabeleland.

The sources said farmers in the area had been told about the killing Friday night through an emergency telephone network used by

white farmers during the Rhodesian Civil War before Zimbabwe's independence in 1980 and revived recently because of violence in Matabeleland.

After a two-month army drive against dissidents said by the government to be disgruntled ex-guerrillas of opposition leader Joshua Nkomo's disbanded ZIPRA Army, violence erupted again in the province this week.

Accountant abducted

A white accountant, Robert Dyer-Smith, was abducted near

Bulawayo by six gunmen demanding the release from prison of Mr. Nkomo's lieutenants who are facing treason charges.

The rebels threatened in a ransom note to kill him and six foreign tourists missing since their abduction while on a safari holiday near Bulawayo last July.

The government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has refused to bow to the abductors' previous demands for political concessions.

It has instead offered a 20,000-Zimbabwean-dollar (\$20,000) reward for information leading to

the release of the two British, two American and two Australian tourists.

The hostage's parents have offered to pay legal fees for Mr. Nkomo's jailed lieutenants, Dumiso Dabengwa and Lookout Maseku, and five others in return for their children's freedom.

The high court will rule next Tuesday whether the seven men have a treason case to answer.

Mr. Nkomo fled Zimbabwe last week saying he feared for his life. He is now in Britain but has promised to return home.

Peking to tighten family planning laws

PEKING (R) — China will bring in a family planning law within the next two years aimed at ensuring the country succeeds in limiting its population to 1.2 billion by the years 2000, a government minister said Saturday.

A state constitution, which became effective in December, laid a duty on every husband and wife to practise birth control.

The new law announced by Qian Zizhong, minister in charge of the state family planning commission, is expected to set out the precise conditions under which couples will be permitted to have children.

China had more than one billion at last June's census — nearly a quarter of the world's population — and the total is rising by nearly 30 million.

The government has set the 1.2 billion target for the turn of the century because any greater increase would undermine ambitious plans to modernise the economy.

Mr. Qian said that achievements so far were due to what he called the broad-based support of the people. More than 14 million couples had signed a one-child pledge, he added.

Talks on U.S. bases in Greece start again

no independent confirmation of this.

At the time, informed sources attributed the deadlock to disagreement over Greek demands for \$1 billion in military aid in return for allowing the Americans to continue using the bases for a limited period.

The State Department note, as published by Pontiki, said the United States was concerned at the communists' support for Warsaw Pact non-aggression proposals, for nuclear-free zones and for "equality" between East and West. The communiqué was issued after Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov visited Greece.

Opposition accusation

ATHENS (R) — Greece's right-wing opposition has accused the socialist and communist parties of undermining democracy through a mass mobilisation of their members that took place last month amid rumours of an impending coup.

In a televised address Thursday night that drew angry rebuttals Friday from the communist and ruling Pasok (socialist) parties, opposition leader Evangelos Averoff called the mobilisation "a proof of totalitarian tendencies."

Manila to probe alleged massacre

Mentally-retarded boy must live, judge rules

VANCOUVER (R) — A mentally-retarded six-year-old boy underwent surgery Friday to prolong his life after a high court judge rejected an appeal by the parents to let him die.

Surgeon Patrick Murray told a press conference that the one-hour operation to release pressure on Stephen Dawson's brain went well.

The boy's parents, Robert and Sharon Dawson, were at the hospital during the operation and were allowed to visit their son in the recovery room.

Surgery was carried out hours

after British Columbian supreme court judge Lloyd MacKenzie said the "presumption must be in favour of life". He granted custody of Stephen, who is blind, deaf and dumb, to child welfare officials.

The decision overruled a lower court ruling which gave custody of the child to the parents who said they wanted him "to die in peace with dignity."

Stephen has spent most of the last two years in institutions and with foster parents. He was able to communicate and respond until a month ago when his brain flooded with fluid.

Mussolini's letter found

ROME (R) — State television researchers say they have unearthed Benito Mussolini's last letter, written to British Prime Minister Winston Churchill four days before the Italian fascist leader's death.

The previously unknown letter, to be sent by special courier, sought to tempt Churchill with an offer of papers he could use in a later struggle against the Soviet Union.

With final defeat staring him in the face Mussolini wrote from Milan on April 24, 1945, the day the Allied armies crossed the River Po: "I have nothing to fear from justice. I do not therefore seek clemency. I ask for... the chance to justify and defend myself. And even now unconditional surrender is impossible."

"Send me somebody that you trust. The documents that I can give him will interest you, faced with the need to overcome the threat from the East," he added.

Hinckley's psychiatrist sued for \$14 million

DENVER (R) — A psychiatrist who treated John Hinckley before he shot President Reagan was sued Friday for \$14 million by three men who were wounded along with the president.

The three accused Dr. John Hopper, of Evergreen, Colorado, of negligence in his diagnosis and treatment of Hinckley during a five-month period before the shooting on March 30, 1981.

Presidental Press Secretary James Brady is seeking \$8 million, secret service agent Timothy McCarthy two million, and retired Washington policeman Thomas Delahanty four million.

President Reagan was not a party to the lawsuit.

Hinckley was declared insane at his Washington trial and has been

confined to hospital for treatment. In the suit, the three men claimed Dr. Hopper negligently misdiagnosed Hinckley as having only minor problems. They charged that the psychiatrist was negligent in not recommending Hinckley should go into the hospital despite such a suggestion by Hinckley's parents.

Dr. Hopper had no comment on the suit.

In the attack, Mr. Brady suffered brain damage from a bullet wound in the head and has not been able to return to work.

Mr. Delahanty, hit in the neck by a bullet, was forced to retire because of the injury. Mr. McCarthy recovered from a chest wound.

Mixed race church challenges South African marriage rules

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The largest church in South Africa's coloured (mixed race) community has taken a strong stand against the government by announcing it will now perform inter-racial marriages and sanction civil disobedience in certain circumstances.

A special synodical commission of the Nederduitsch Gereformeerde Sendingkerk (NGS) has issued a statement in Cape Town challenging several key elements of government policy.

It said the church would fully acknowledge marriages across the colour line even though they violate South African law. Such marriages would take place in the church and include the taking of the sacrament.

The church also said it would help, protect, and as far as possible, such couples in case of government action against them.

Some South African churches have evolved into major centres of

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shuttle flight now set for April 4

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The space shuttle Challenger will make its long-delayed first voyage on April 4, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced Friday. The flight of the problem-plagued shuttle, originally scheduled for January 20, will be the sixth in the series. The launch will take place at 1830 GMT. The announcement said NASA officials made the announcement after reviewing the condition of the Challenger's engines — which underwent repairs after the discovery of cracks and have been exhaustively tested since being reinstalled in the shuttle.

Mubarak addresses Al Azhar scholars

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Saturday urged scholars of Al Azhar, the world's second oldest university, to play a more active role in purging Islamic teachings of alien and destructive ideas. Addressing a rally to celebrate the university's millennium, Mr. Mubarak said: "We look forward to doubling the good efforts of Al Azhar ulama (scholars) to safeguard the Islamic theology against alien and destructive concepts."

Clashes in Karachi lead to curfew

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan's military authorities Saturday imposed an indefinite curfew on part of Karachi where seven people have died in violence between two Muslim sects. A government announcement said the curfew, affecting several hundred thousand people who live near a mosque claimed by both Sunni and Shia Muslims, would last until further notice.

Thai premier calls for general elections

BANGKOK (R) — Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda Friday night asked King Bhumibol Adulyadej to dissolve Parliament and call an early general election. The decision followed a tense week in which there were fears the army might stage a coup after Parliament rejected constitutional amendments that would have maintained the military's influence in the house of representatives and senate.

Italy's ex-king to be buried in France

GENEVA (R) — Ex-king Umberto of Italy, who died in Geneva Friday 37 years after being banished from his homeland, will be buried next Thursday at the Abbey of Hautecombe in France, a member of his family said Saturday.